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HIGHLIGHTS

Agricultural Prices
Poultry Highlights
Cold Storage
Livestock Slaughter
Farm Labor & Wages
Cattle on Feed
Turkeys Raised
Milk Production

was 9 points (6%) above a year ago. The Crop Index was up 1 point (1%) from last month but was 7 points (7%) below last year.

U.S. INDEX OF PRICES RECEIVED

The All Farm Products Index of Prices Received by Farmers in the United States in August was 98 based on 1990-92=100 and mid-month August prices, up 3 points (3.2%) from the preliminary July index. Price increases from July for milk, hogs, wheat, and corn more than offset price decreases for broilers, potatoes, oranges, and tomatoes. Compared with August 1998, the All Farm Products Index was 3 points (3.0%) lower.

NEBRASKA PRICES RECEIVED INDEX

The mid-August Index of Prices Received by Nebraska farmers, at 129% of its January- December 1977 average, was 4 points (3%) above July and was 3 points (2%) above August a year ago. The Index of Livestock and Livestock Products increased 5 points (3%) from last month and

AVERAGE PRICES RECEIVED BY FARMERS

COMMODITY	Unit	NEBRASKA			UNITED STATES				
		August 1998 1/	July 1999 1/	August 15, 1999	August 1998 1/	July 1999 1/	August 15, 1999	% of Parity	Parity Price*
Wheat	Bu.	\$ 2.28	\$ 2.13	\$ 2.20	\$ 2.38	\$ 2.23	\$ 2.43	25	\$ 9.67
Corn	Bu.	1.83	1.72	1.75	1.89	1.74	1.78	27	6.61
Oats	Bu.	1.22	1.10	1.10	1.02	1.08	1.07	31	3.46
Grain Sorghum	Cwt.	2.97	2.67	2.80	3.32	2.83	2.94	28	10.40
Soybeans	Bu.	5.18	4.04	4.10	5.43	4.20	4.25	30	14.00
Hay, All, Baled	Ton	52.00	38.00	38.00	88.00	78.40	77.40	---	---
Alfalfa, Baled	Ton	53.00	39.00	38.00	90.20	82.00	81.50	---	---
Other, Baled	Ton	40.00	34.00	32.00	76.40	65.30	62.80	---	---
Dry Edible Beans	Cwt.	19.70	17.60	17.20	19.60	19.30	19.10	38	50.30
Hogs	Cwt.	37.90	34.10	38.40	35.20	31.20	36.40	36	102.00
Barrows & Gilts	Cwt.	38.10	34.10	38.60	35.90	31.90	37.20	---	---
Sows	Cwt.	23.20	22.00	27.90	21.80	20.50	23.40	---	---
Beef Cattle	Cwt.	59.40	64.00	65.20	57.40	62.60	62.90	42	151.00
Steers & Heifers	Cwt.	60.10	64.60	66.10	59.70	65.20	65.60	---	---
Cows	Cwt.	32.90	39.80	37.10	34.20	37.70	37.00	---	---
Calves	Cwt.	74.70	86.70	83.70	76.90	89.20	89.00	46	193.00
Sheep	Cwt.	29.60	33.80	n/a	28.30	32.00	n/a	---	65.00
Lambs	Cwt.	79.20	75.30	n/a	80.10	77.00	n/a	---	156.00
Milk Cows	Head	---	1260.00	---	---	1280.00	---	---	---
All Milk	Cwt.	15.20	12.70	12.80	15.50	13.70	14.90	49	30.40
Milk, Fluid	Cwt.	15.20	12.70	---	15.50	13.80	14.90	---	---
Milk, Mfg.	Cwt.	14.90	13.40	---	14.60	13.20	14.80	---	---

1/ Entire month average except hay and milk cows. *Parity price based on data for August 1999. n/a = not available.

NEBRASKA PRICE INDEX NUMBERS

(1977=100)

Item	Aug. 1998	July 1999	Aug. 15, 1999
All Farm Products	126	125	129
All Crops	98	90	91
Food Grains	108	101	104
Feed grains & Hay	95	87	89
Oil Bearing Crops	77	60	61
Miscellaneous Crops ...	139	133	132
Livestock & Products	144	148	153
Meat Animals	143	150	155
Dairy Products	164	137	139

POULTRY HIGHLIGHTS - JULY

Item	1998	1999	'99% of '98
	Millions		Percent
No. of Layers			
NEBRASKA	10.4	11.3	108
30 States	291.4	301.1	103
U.S.	308.9	319.9	104
Eggs Produced			
NEBRASKA	232	240	103
30 States	6,351	6,498	102
U.S.	6,720	6,906	103
Chickens, U.S.			
Hatched, July			
Egg-type	35.6	34.3	96
Broiler	722.7	750.5	104
Hatched thru July			
Egg-type	265.4	270.1	102
Broiler	4,975.1	5,147.8	103
Turkeys, U.S.			
Placed (July)	26.2	26.8	102

U.S. COLD STORAGE HIGHLIGHTS

Frozen food stocks in refrigerated warehouses on July 31, 1999 were greater than year earlier levels for, butter, chicken, pork, fruit, and vegetables. Stocks on July 31 for selected items and changes from last year and last month follow:

Commodity	Stocks 1,000 lbs.	Percent Change	
		July '98	June '99
Total red meats ..	815,938	+9%	-4%
Beef	292,331	-4%	Sm-%
Pork	500,568	+21%	-6%
Poultry	1,550,482	+21%	+10%
Turkey	601,957	-14%	+8%
Chicken	943,190	+63%	+12%

COMMERCIAL LIVESTOCK SLAUGHTER

July 1999 output and changes from last year and last month are shown below. July 1998 contained 23 weekdays (including one holiday) and four Saturdays. July 1999 contained 22 weekdays (including one holiday) and five Saturdays.

Item	Total 1/ (1,000)	% Change	
		July 1998	June 1999
<u>NEBRASKA</u>			
Cattle, head	636.1	-1	-5
Hogs, head	492.1	-6	-6
Sheep & Lambs, head	.1	-50	Same
Red Meat, mil. lbs.	572.9	-1	-5
<u>UNITED STATES</u>			
Cattle, head	3,083.7	+1	-4
Calves, head	110.8	-17	+6
Hogs, head	7,909.6	-4	-5
Sheep & Lambs, head	265.0	-6	-2
Red Meat, mil. lbs.	3,781.4	Sm.+	-4

1/ Excludes animals slaughtered on farms.

HIRED WORKERS ON FARMS & FARM WAGE RATES

SELECTED REGIONS AND UNITED STATES, JULY 12-18, 1998 & JULY 11-17, 1999 1/

Region <u>2</u> /	Hired Workers		WAGE RATES							
			All Hired Workers		Type of work					
					Field		Livestock		Field & Livestock	
	1998	1999	1998	1999	1998	1999	1998	1999	1998	1999
	Thousands		Dollars per hour							
Lake	72	88	7.01	7.73	6.95	7.35	6.41	7.15	6.77	7.29
Cornbelt I	50	68	7.84	8.03	7.45	7.54	7.52	7.39	7.47	7.52
Cornbelt II	28	30	7.52	7.90	6.61	7.22	7.62	8.07	7.02	7.58
Northern Plains	45	54	7.08	7.73	6.73	7.32	6.51	7.63	6.69	7.37
Southern Plains	63	60	6.32	6.60	5.98	6.23	5.98	6.40	5.98	6.26
Mountain I	31	31	6.30	6.61	6.05	6.17	6.47	6.97	6.13	6.43
Mountain II	30	31	6.95	7.26	6.13	6.47	7.08	7.09	6.39	6.73
United States	1,071	1,143	7.25	7.58	6.78	7.05	6.91	7.15	6.80	7.07

1/ Excludes agricultural service workers. 2/ Regions consist of the following: Lake: Michigan, Minnesota, Wisconsin; Cornbelt I: Illinois, Indiana, Ohio; Cornbelt II: Iowa, Missouri; Northern Plains: Kansas, NEBRASKA, North Dakota, South Dakota; Southern Plains: Oklahoma, Texas; Mountain I: Idaho, Montana, Wyoming; Mountain II: Colorado, Nevada, Utah.

NEBRASKA CATTLE ON FEED UP 10%

Nebraska feedlots, with capacities of 1,000 or more head, contained 1,600,000 cattle on feed on August 1. This inventory was up 10% from last year and 7% above two years ago.

Fed cattle marketings for the month of July totaled 480,000 head, up 14% from last year and 20% above July two years ago.

Placements of cattle into feedlots during July totaled 300,000 head, up 3% from last year but 19% below 1997. Other disappearance during July totaled 10,000 head compared with 10,000 head last year and 10,000 head during July 1997.

HISTORIC 7 STATES CATTLE ON FEED UP 2%

Cattle on feed August 1, 1999, in the historic 7 monthly States for feedlots with capacity of 1,000 or more head totaled 7.88 million, up 2% from the previous year and 5% above August 1, 1997.

Marketings during July totaled 1.82 million, 3% above 1998 but 2% below 1997.

Placements in feedlots during July totaled 1.57 million, 7% below 1998 and 11% below 1997. Other disappearance during July was 43,000 head, 5% above 1998 and 2% above 1997.

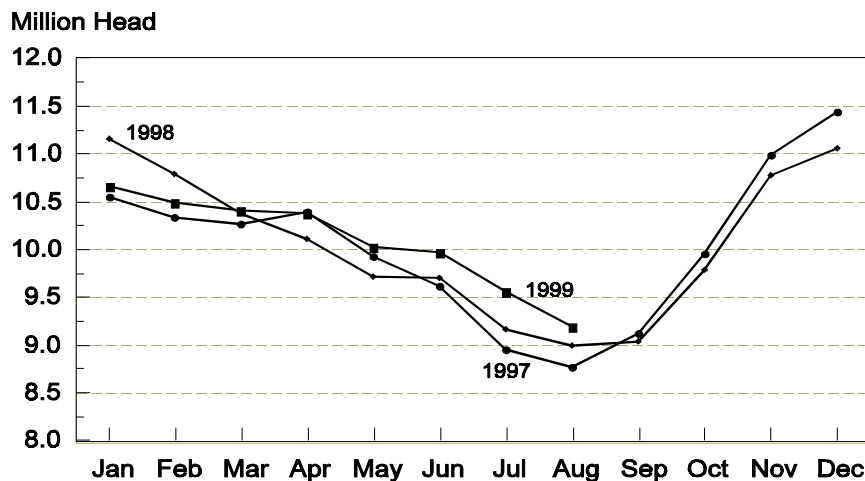
CATTLE ON FEED -- INVENTORIES, PLACEMENTS, MARKETINGS & OTHER DISAPPEARANCE, 1,000+ CAPACITY FEEDLOTS

STATE	AUGUST 1 NUMBER ON FEED <u>1/</u>			JULY PLACEMENTS			JULY MARKETINGS			JULY OTHER DISAPPEAR <u>2/</u>		
	1998	1999	<u>1999</u> 1998	1998	1999	<u>1999</u> 1998	1998	1999	<u>1999</u> 1998	1998	1999	<u>1999</u> 1998
	1,000 head		%	1,000 head		%	1,000 head		%	1,000 head		%
Arizona* . . .	196	194	99	21	23	110	25	26	104	0	1	0
California* .	395	375	95	55	55	100	45	50	111	5	5	100
Colorado* . .	840	960	114	225	175	78	260	230	88	5	5	100
Idaho	215	265	123	50	48	96	66	56	85	4	2	50
Iowa*	245	290	118	26	32	123	45	50	111	1	2	200
Kansas* . . .	1,930	1,980	103	530	500	94	460	460	100	10	10	100
Nebraska* .	1,460	1,600	110	290	300	103	420	480	114	10	10	100
New Mexico	86	83	97	18	16	89	13	14	108	1	1	100
Oklahoma . .	370	325	88	86	73	85	75	71	95	1	2	200
So. Dakota .	134	125	93	17	14	82	28	27	96	1	2	200
Texas*	2,640	2,480	94	530	480	91	500	520	104	10	10	100
Washington	150	202	135	44	45	102	45	57	127	2	1	50
Other Sts . . .	335	320	96	45	51	113	70	75	107	0	1	0
U.S.	8,996	9,199	102	1,937	1,812	94	2,052	2,116	103	50	52	104
7 States	7,706	7,879	102	1,677	1,565	93	1,755	1,816	103	41	43	105

1/ Cattle and calves on feed are animals for slaughter market being fed a ration of grain or other concentrates and are expected to produce a carcass that will grade select or better.

2/ Includes death losses, movement from feedlots to pastures and shipments to other feedlots for further feeding.

United States Cattle on Feed 1,000+ Capacity Feedlots



TURKEYS RAISED DOWN 4 PERCENT FROM 1998

The preliminary estimate of turkeys raised in the United States during 1999 is 275 million, down four percent from the 285 million raised during 1998.

The following six States are expected to account for about two-thirds of the turkeys produced in the United States during 1999:

North Carolina is forecast to continue as the nation's leader in turkey production with 48.5 million birds, 3% less than 1998.

Minnesota ranks second with 43.5 million, down 2% from last year.

Arkansas is in third place by producing 27.0 million birds, 4% less than a year ago.

Virginia is the nation's fourth largest producing State with 25.0 million birds, down 4% from a year ago.

Missouri is in fifth place with 22.0 million birds, unchanged from last year's production.

California expects to raise 18.0 million turkeys, 5% below a year earlier.

TURKEYS: NUMBER RAISED, 1998 & 1999 ^{1/}

State	1998	1999	1999 as % of 1998
	1,000 head		Percent
Arkansas	28,000	27,000	96
California	19,000	18,000	95
Connecticut	5	5	100
Illinois	3,200	2,600	81
Indiana	13,500	13,500	100
Iowa	7,000	7,500	107
Maryland ^{2/}	600	445	74
Massachusetts	81	83	102
Minnesota	44,500	43,500	98
Missouri	22,000	22,000	100
New Hampshire	14	14	100
New Jersey	71	55	77
New York	500	480	96
North Carolina	50,000	48,500	97
North Dakota	1,800	1,700	94
Ohio	5,500	5,200	95
Pennsylvania	10,500	10,100	96
South Carolina	10,600	8,500	80
South Dakota	3,800	3,900	103
Vermont	41	43	105
Virginia	26,000	25,000	96
West Virginia	4,300	4,500	105
Other States ^{3/}	34,192	32,261	94
United States	285,204	274,886	96

^{1/} 1998 revised. ^{2/} Includes Delaware. ^{3/} Other States include Colorado, Georgia, Kansas, Michigan, Nebraska, Oklahoma, Oregon, Texas, Utah, and Wisconsin.

JULY MILK PRODUCTION

Milk production in the 20 major States during July totaled 11.6 billion pounds, up 2.3% from production in these same States in July 1998. July milk production was down 1.2% from June 1999, compared to a decrease of 0.7% for the same period in 1998. June revised production, at 11.7 billion pounds was up 2.8% from June 1998.

Production per cow in the 20 major States averaged 1,496 pounds for July, 28 pounds above July 1998. The number of cows on farms in the 20 major States was 7.74 million head, 27,000 head more than July 1998 and 6,000 head more than June 1999.

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